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Design for a  
Steel Grand Stand

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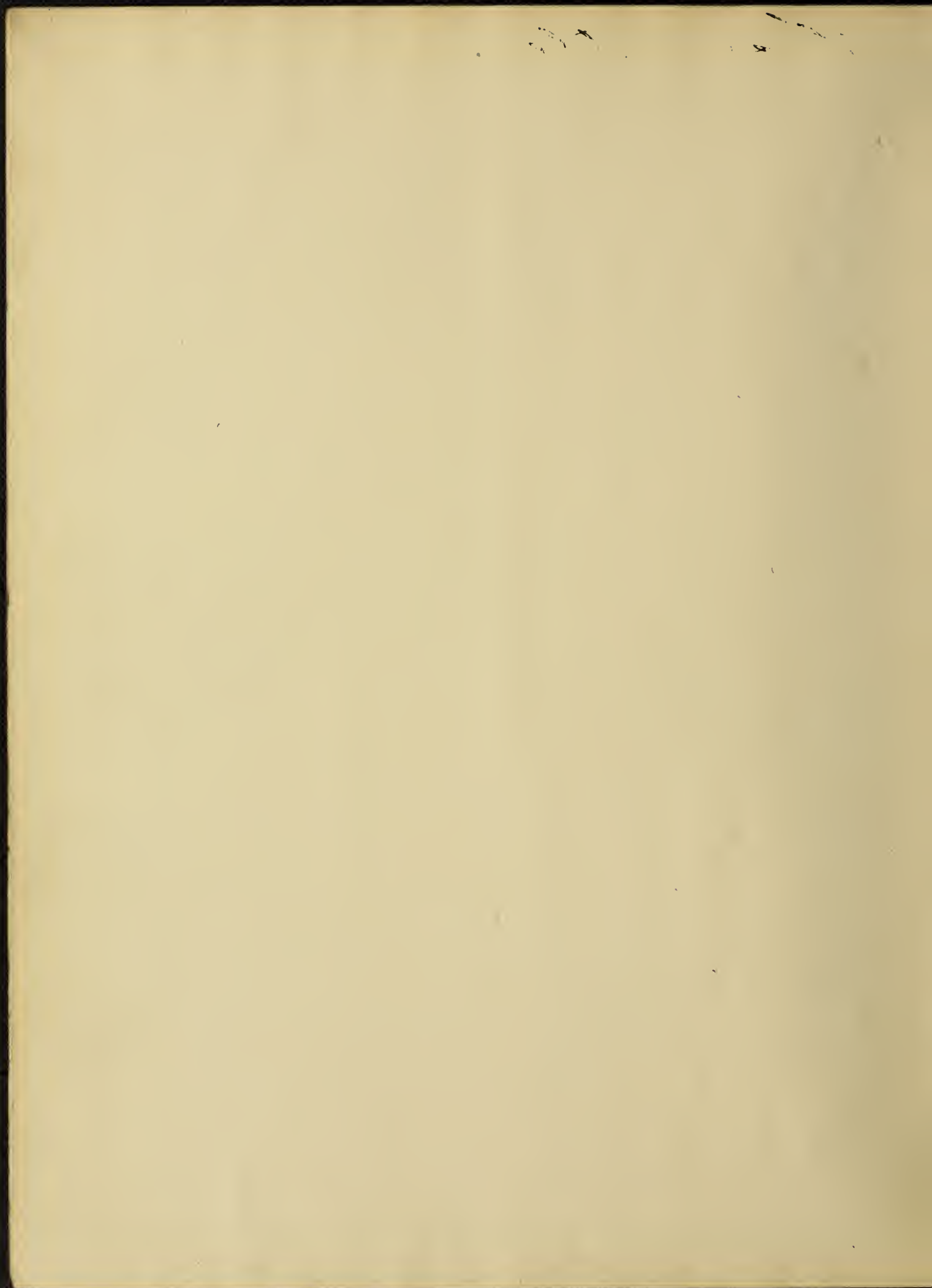
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DESIGN  
FOR A  
STEEL GRAND STAND

BY  
CLAUDE H. SEYMOUR

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THESIS  
FOR  
DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
IN  
CIVIL ENGINEERING

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COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

PRESENTED JUNE 1905



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U N I V E R S I T Y   O F   I L L I N O I S

May 19, 1905

This is to certify that the thesis prepared under the  
immediate supervision of Instructor C. W. Malcolm by

CLAUDE HENRICKSON SEYMOUR

entitled        DESIGN FOR A STEEL GRAND STAND

is approved by me as fulfilling this part of the requirements  
for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering

*Ira O. Baker.*

Head of Department of Civil Engineering

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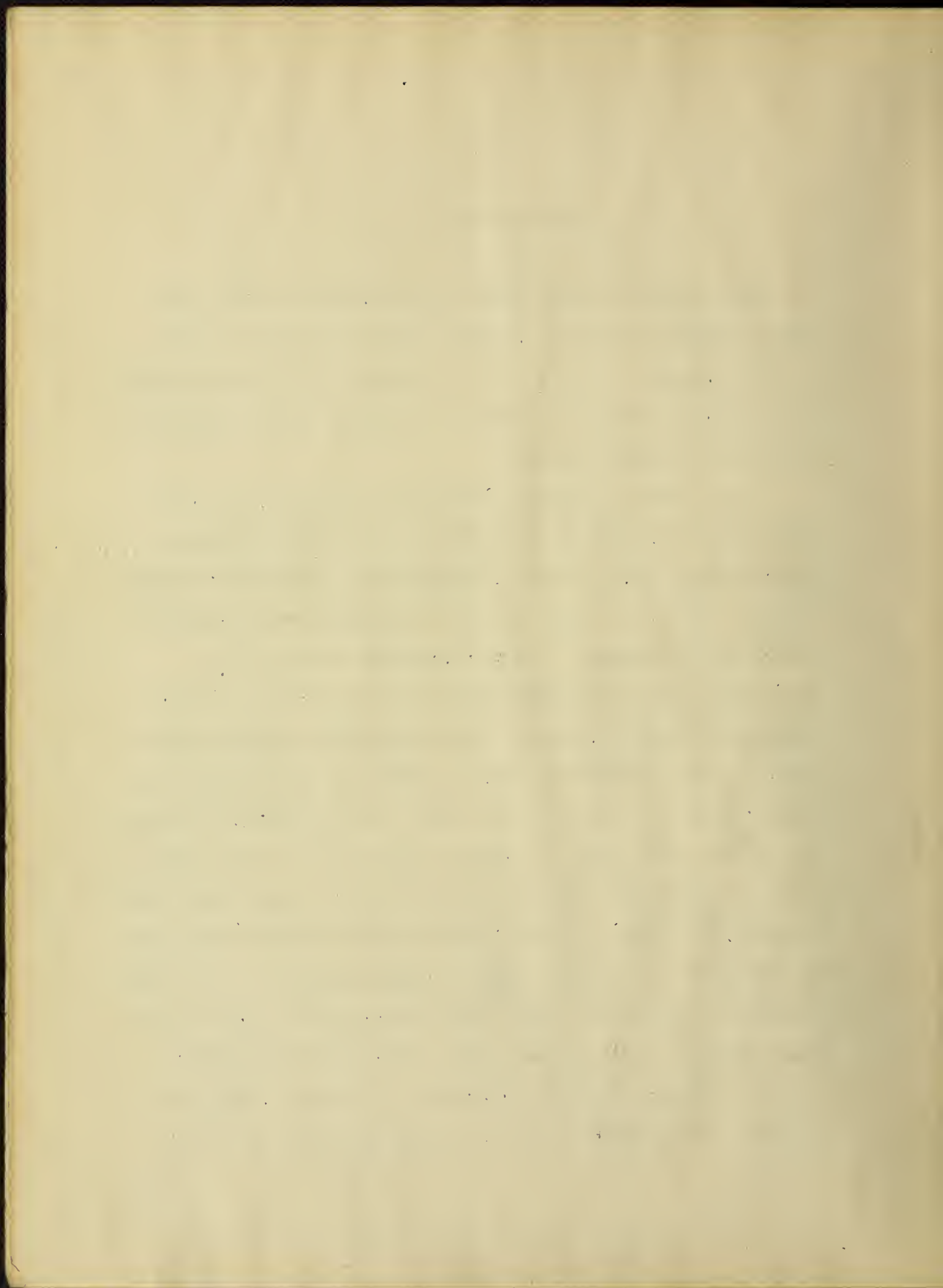


## Introduction.

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The object of this thesis is to design a steel grand stand which will have a seating capacity of about 3,000 or 3,500 people. It is to be designed for Illinois Field at the University of Illinois. As the field is very level, no contour map need be made.

A few years ago grand stands built entirely of steel were not at all common, but today several large driving parks already have, or are contemplating, large steel grand stands. The first one of large dimensions was erected at Monmouth, New Jersey. It was designed by Mr. F. S. Williamson, and is 700 feet long, 210 feet wide, and will accommodate 10,000 people. The stand was completed March 1, 1890. It is notable for its size and its cantilever roof, which projects 75 feet to the front and 25 feet to the rear of the main structure. Another grand stand erected at Yonker's, New York, for the Empire City Trotting Club, has a capacity of 7,700. It is 70 feet high, 400 feet long, and 90.5 feet wide over all. The cost was \$100,000. This stand also has a cantilever roof, which projects 25.5 feet to the front and 15.5 feet to the rear. The largest and most costly structure of this type ever constructed is at the Belmont Driving Park, on Long Island, near New York City.





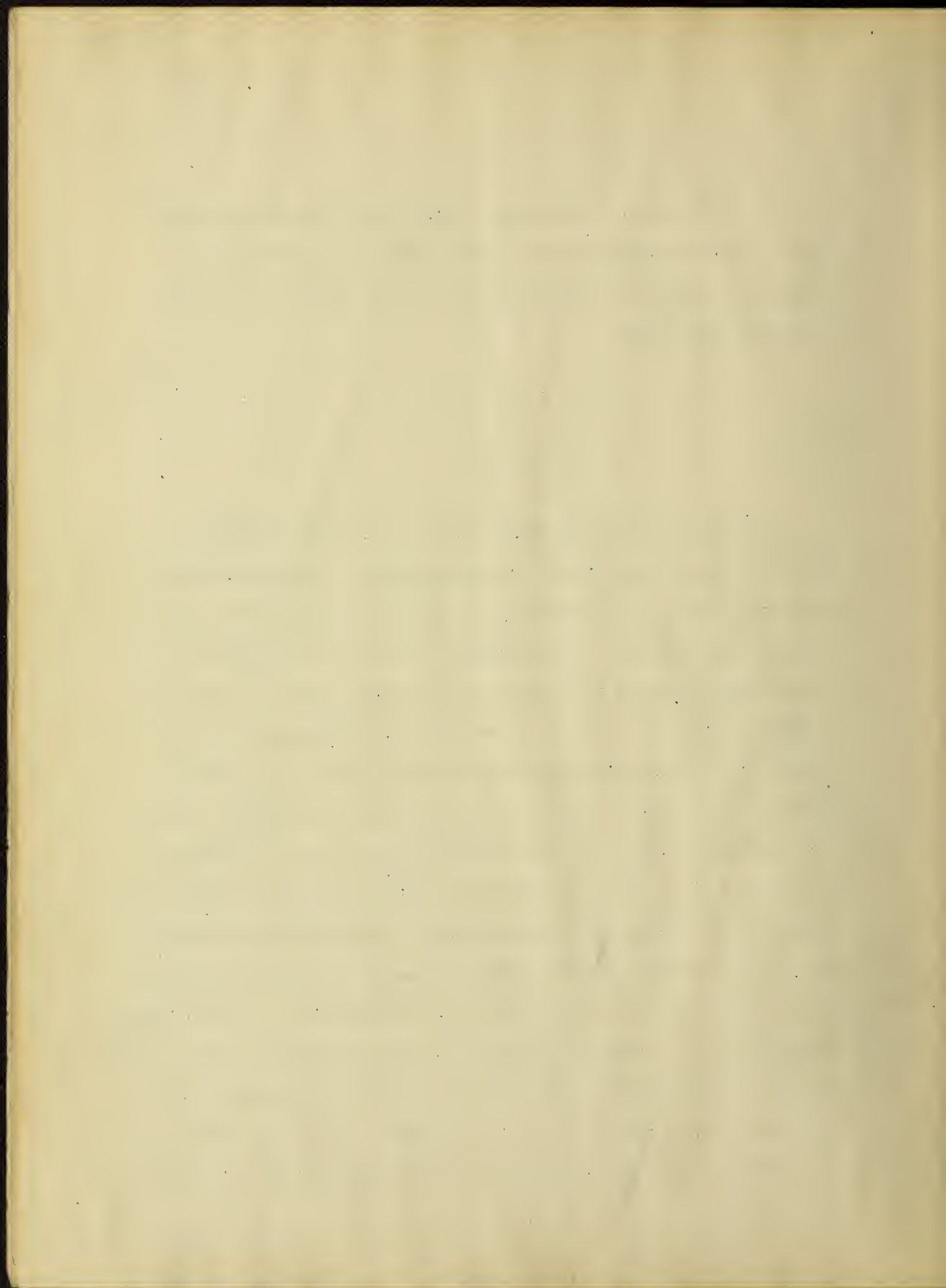
It is 116 feet wide, 650 feet long, and 55 feet high, and has a seating capacity of 11,000 people. There are 4,500,000 pounds of steel in the structure and the total cost was \$450,000.

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#### The Design.

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Ketchum's "General Specifications for Steel-Frame Mill Buildings" was used in this design. A dead or minimum snow load of 10 pounds per square foot horizontal projection was used. The maximum snow load was taken as 20 pounds per square foot, horizontal projection. The wind load was obtained from a curve based on Duchermin's formula, considering the wind force as 30 pounds per square foot, vertical projection, which gave 20 pounds per square foot, normal projection, for the flatter pitch, and 27.5 pounds per square foot for the steeper. The roof trusses were designed to take the maximum stress occasioned by the maximum wind and the minimum snow, acting at once; or the dead load and the maximum snow load taken together. The writer decided that it would not be necessary to consider the maximum snow and the maximum wind acting together, as this condition would never be obtained. The wind load on the seats was taken as 20 pounds per square foot, vertical projection.





The allowable unit tensile stress was taken as 10,000 pounds per square inch, on the net section. The allowable unit compressive stress used was

$$16,000 - 70 \frac{l}{r},$$

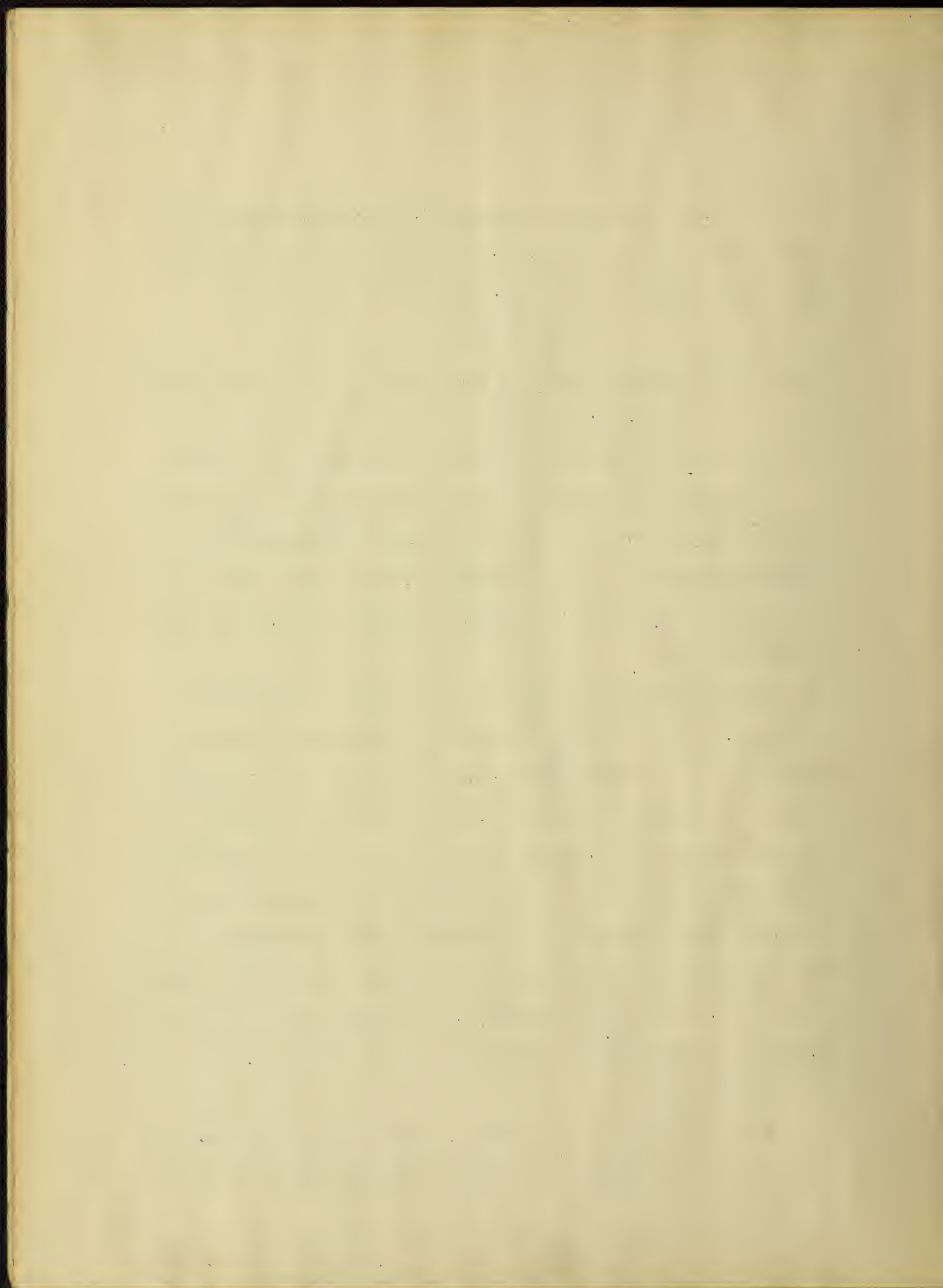
where  $\underline{l}$  = length of member in inches, center to center of end connections,

$\underline{r}$  = least radius of gyration of member in inches.

The shearing stress of the rivets was taken as 11,000 pounds per square inch, and the bearing value as 22,000 pounds per square inch. Field riveting was considered two thirds as efficient as shop riveting, and was avoided where possible.

Slag concrete was used for the steps, instead of crushed stone concrete, to reduce the weight as much as possible. Its weight was taken as 100 pounds per cubic foot. The dead load of the seats, including concrete, angles, plates, corrugated iron, lumber, etc., was taken as 35 pounds per square foot, horizontal projection. The live load, considering the weight of the average person as 150 pounds, was 32 pounds per square foot. The total load as calculated = 67 pounds per square foot. The seats and seat trusses were designed for a total load of 75 pounds per square foot.

The roof trusses are fixed in the rear by the seat trusses, consequently there is no bending moment in the

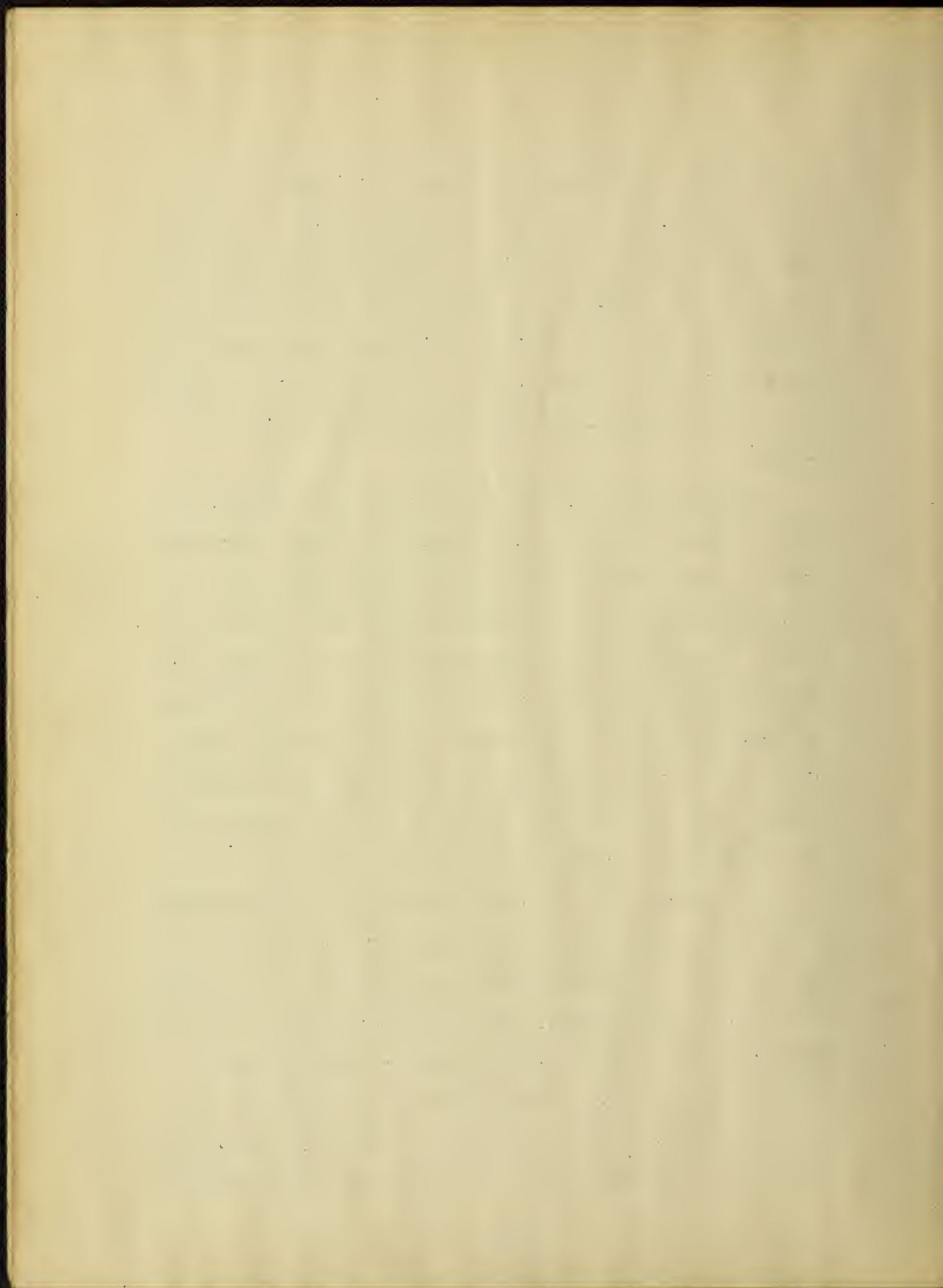




front posts. The latter are spaced at intervals of 50 feet, in order to obstruct the view as little as possible. The intermediate roof trusses, which are spaced at 16 feet 8 inches, are supported by trusses four feet deep, and are connected to the front posts. The cantilever roof, which projects 10 feet in front of the main roof, is to protect the persons in the front row of seats from inclement weather.

The unsymmetrical roof, rather than the symmetrical roof, was used to better allow the use of the cantilever roof in front, and at the same time to give a more pleasing appearance. It was decided that it would be better to make the roof comparatively low, and thus avoid large wind stresses and correspondingly large truss members and footings. The writer considered that it was better to do this, although by so doing the occupants of the last few rows of seats could not see any higher than the level of the seats, which is about 25 feet.

The tendency of the wind to overturn a structure of this kind is very great, especially when there are no people in it. Comparatively large footings must be used to overcome this tendency, the largest of these being under the front intermediate seat trusses. When the wind is acting from the front, these footings are subjected to a large overturning force acting in a slightly upward direction and to the rear, with no appreciable load to resist





this force except the weight of the footings themselves. This accounts for the peculiar form of footing used at these places ( see plate containing Details for Grand Stand ).

The stresses were all obtained by graphic methods, and were scaled to the nearest 100 pounds. See Stress Sheet for stress diagrams and table of results.

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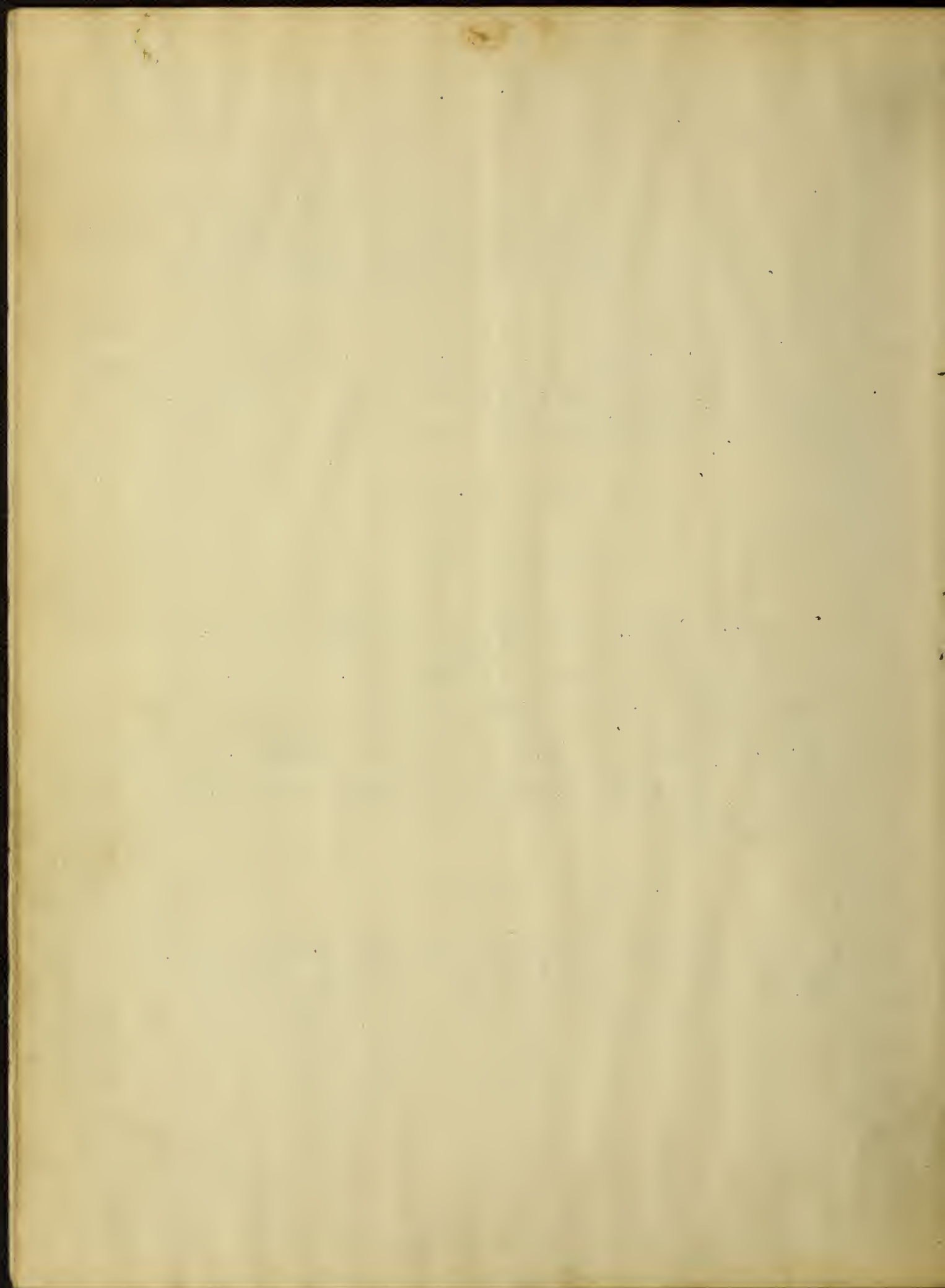
#### Weight and Cost.

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There are 395,700 pounds of metal used, exclusive of the corrugated iron and the gas pipe. The structure contains 102,200 pounds of galvanized corrugated iron, 1,940 feet of gas pipe, 293 yards of concrete, and 26,290 feet of lumber. The estimated cost of the grand stand complete is \$21,700.00.

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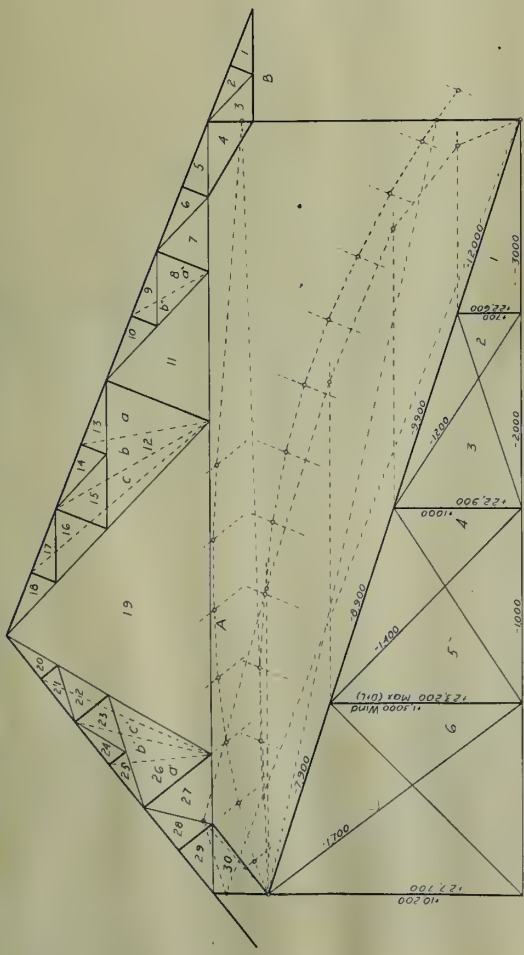
The following four plates give the stresses, details, general plan and elevation, and a perspective of the completed structure.



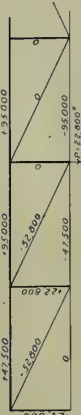


Stresses in the Roof Truss

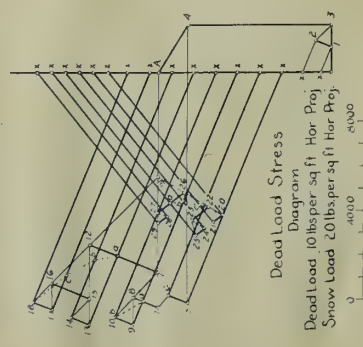
| Name  | Dead | Snow | Wind | Load | Dead | Load |
|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Piece | Load | Load | Load | Load | Load | Load |
| 1     | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 2     | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 3     | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 4     | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 5     | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 6     | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 7     | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 8     | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 9     | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 10    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 11    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 12    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 13    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 14    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 15    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 16    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 17    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 18    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 19    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 20    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 21    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 22    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 23    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 24    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 25    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 26    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 27    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 28    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 29    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| 30    | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |



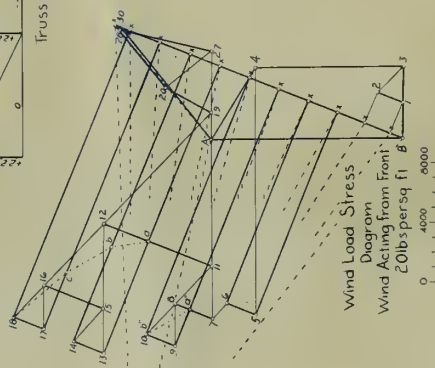
Roof and Seat Trusses



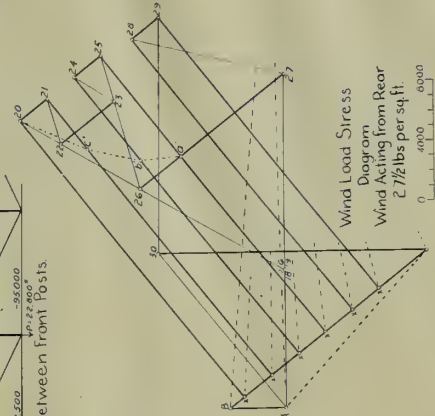
Truss Between Front Posts



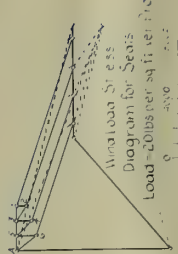
Dead Load Stress Diagram  
Dead Load 10 lbs per sq ft Hor Proj  
Snow Load 20 lbs per sq ft Hor Proj



Wind Load Stress Diagram  
Wind Acting from Front  
20 lbs per sq ft



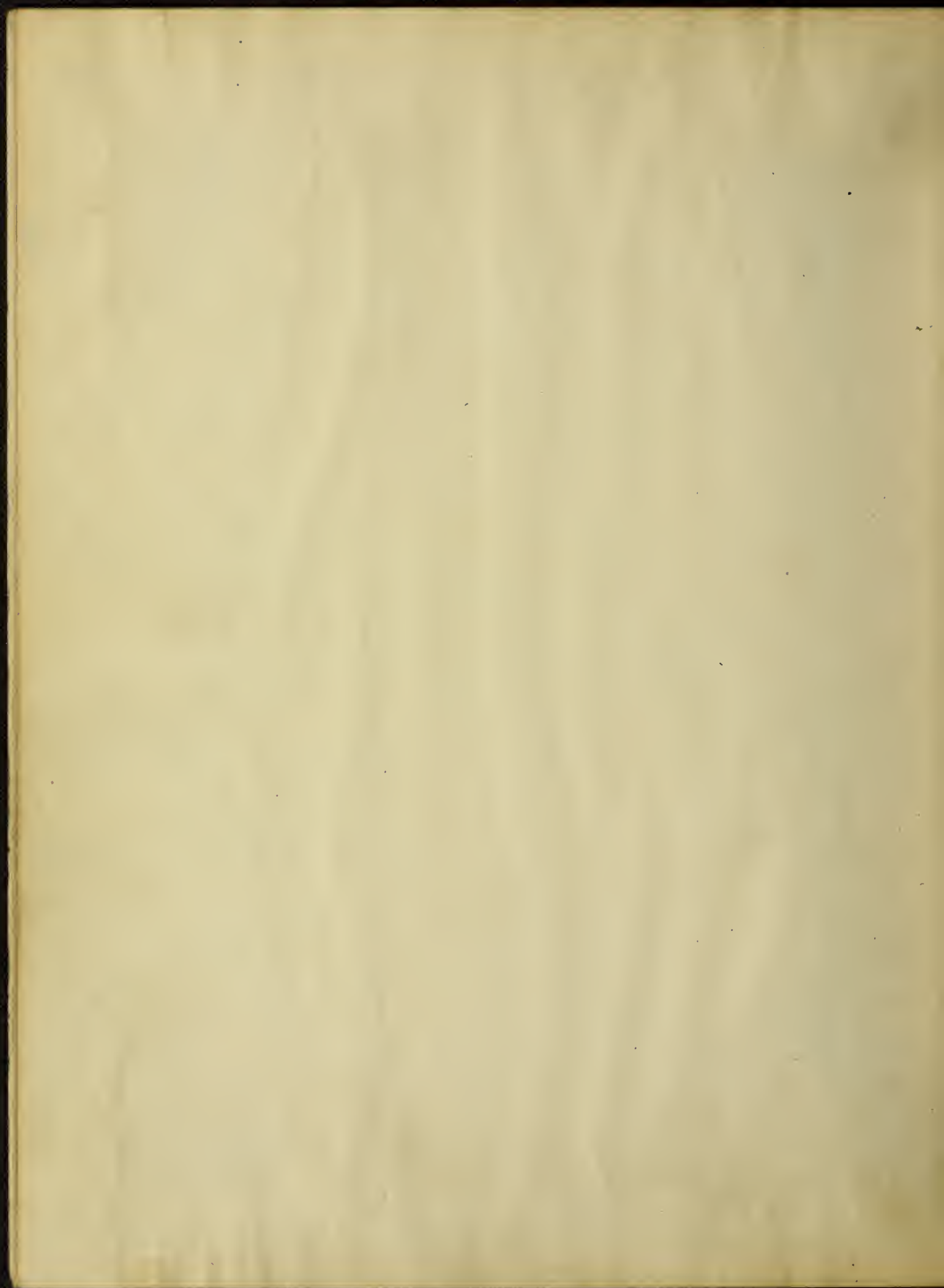
Wind Load Stress Diagram  
Wind Acting from Rear  
27 1/2 lbs per sq ft



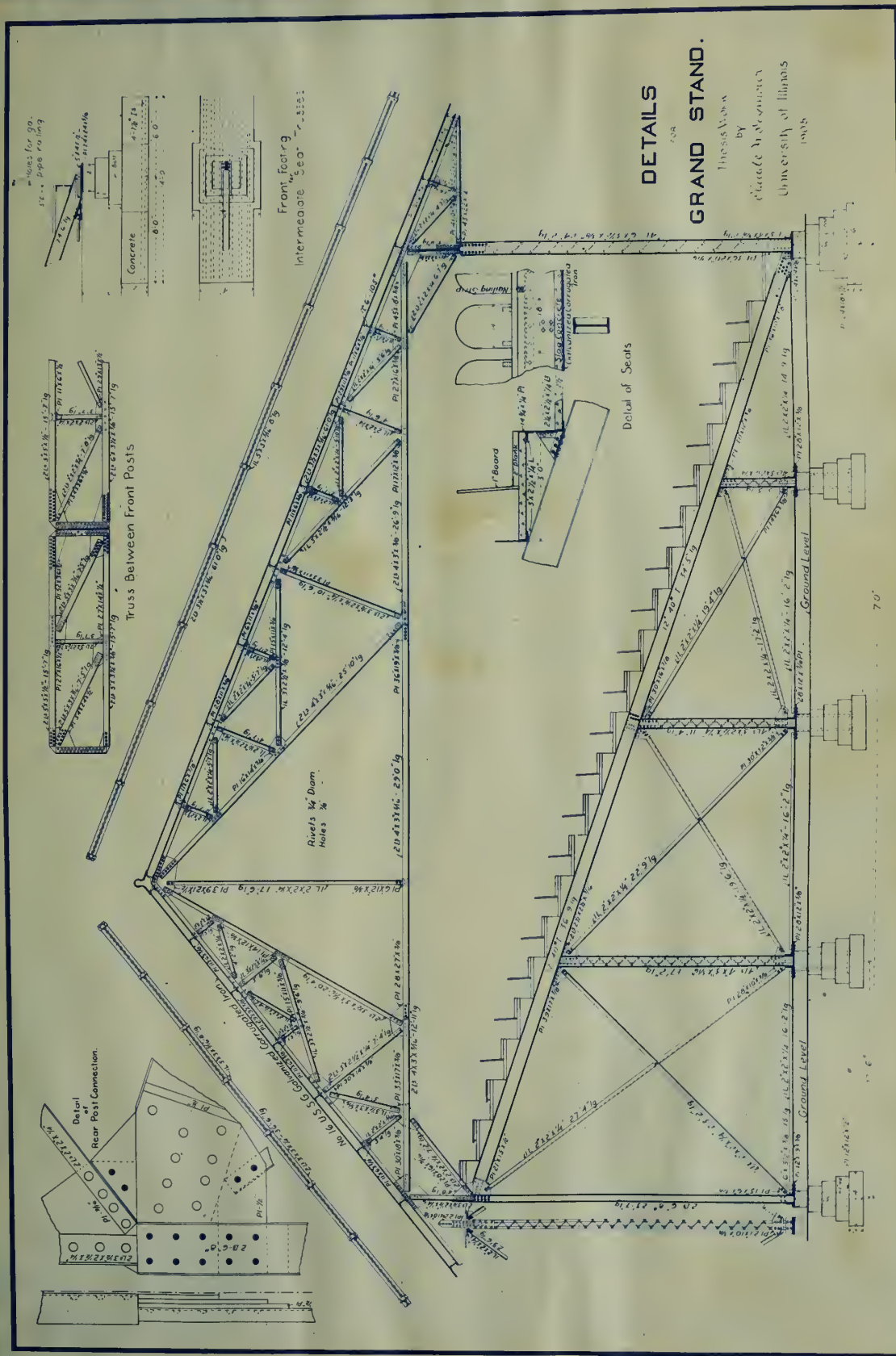
Wind Load Stress Diagram for Seas  
Load 20 lbs per sq ft vertical

# STRESS SHEET GRAND STAND

Thesis Work  
by  
Claude H. Heyman  
University of Illinois  
1905

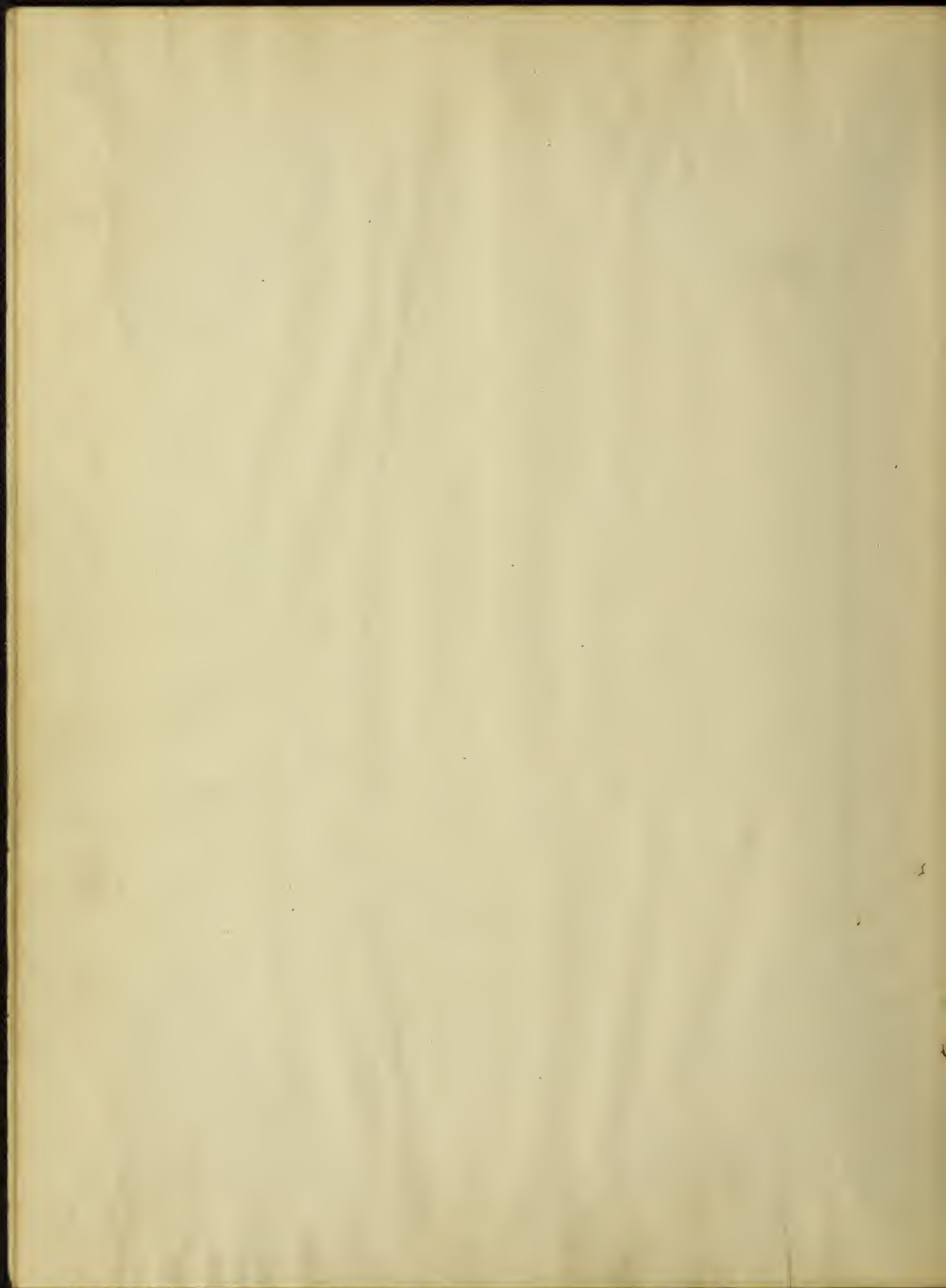


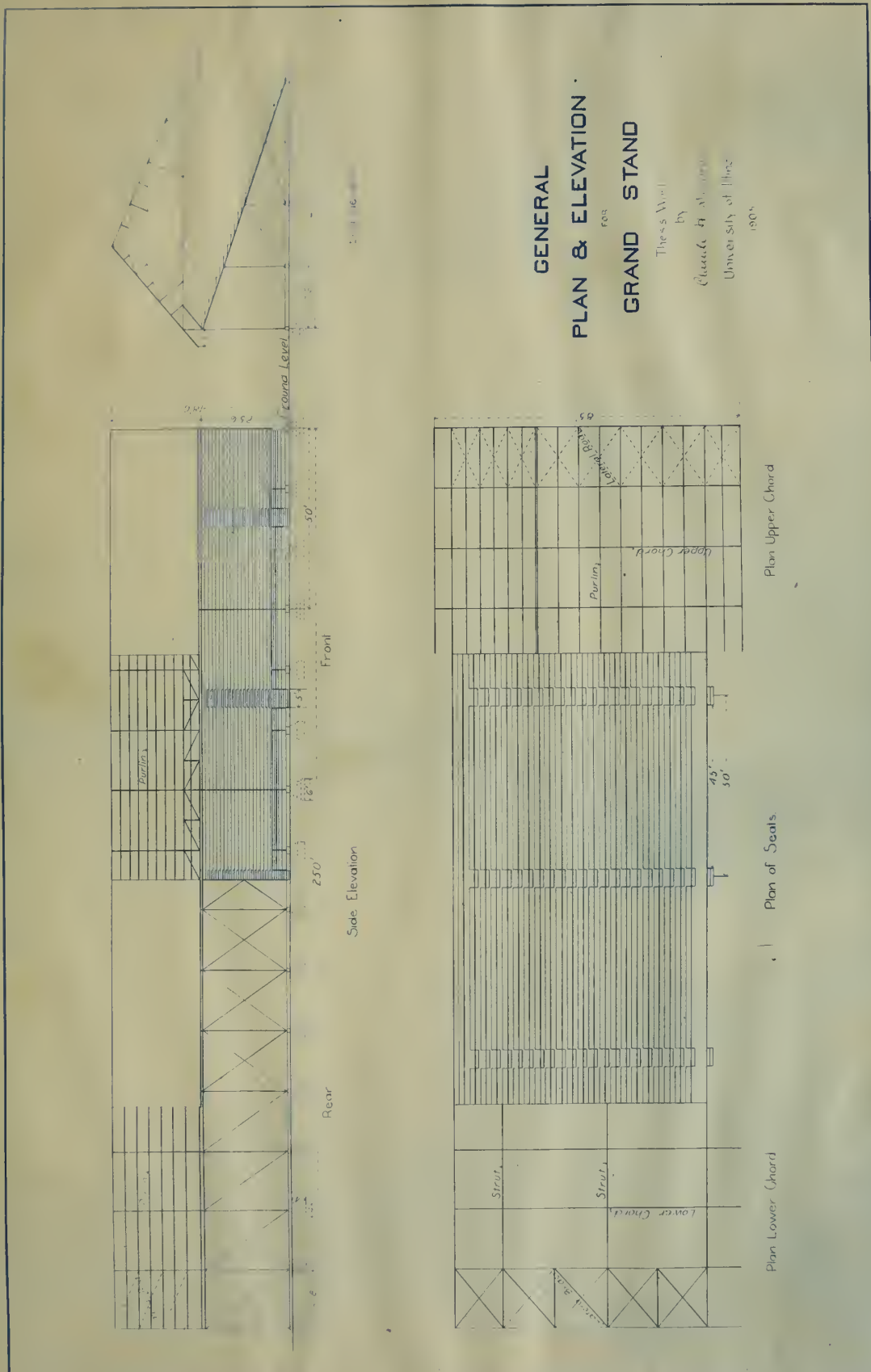




DETAILS  
GRAND STAND.  
Thesis No. 1  
by  
Charles H. Brown  
University of Illinois  
1905

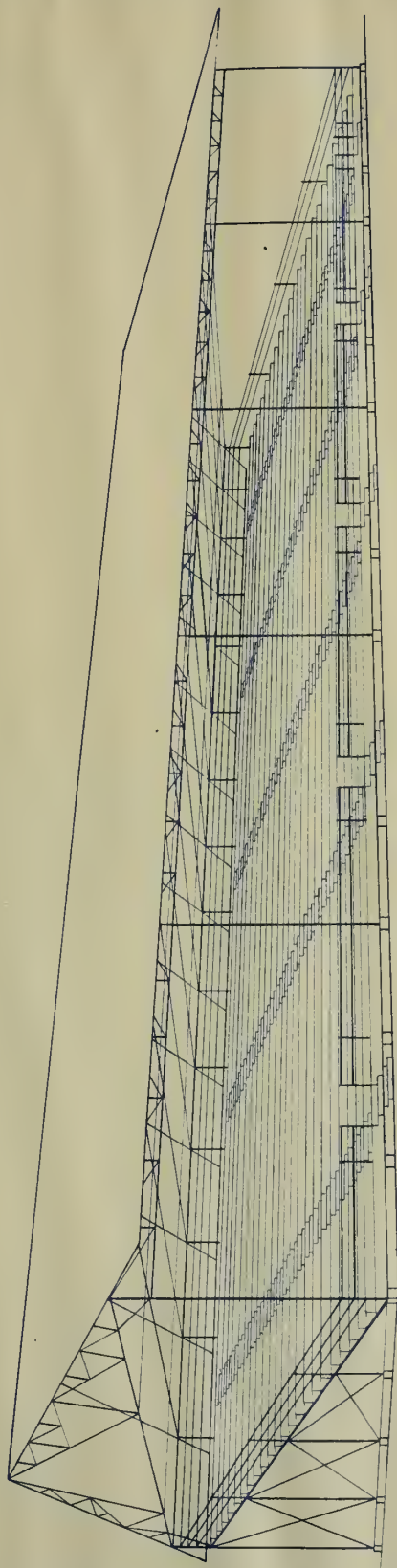












PERSPECTIVE FOR GRAND STAND

Thesis Work

by

*Claude H. Seymour*

University of Illinois

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